

August 16, 2005

A meeting of the Board of Election Commissioners of St. Louis County was held at its office located at 12 Sunnen Drive, Maplewood, Missouri, Tuesday, August 16, 2005, at 3:00 p.m. on notice and call of the Chairman, John Diehl, Jr.

Present at the meeting were:

John J. Diehl, Jr.	Chairman
Chaim Zimbalist	Secretary
Anita Yeckel	Commissioner
Bill Miller	Commissioner
Judy Taylor	Director
Charlene LaRosa	Acting Director
Kevin O'Keefe, Steve Garrett	Counsel

The following staff members were in attendance: Deputy Director Debbie Quicke, Assistant Director Richard Bauer and Assistant Director Ryan Regan.

The meeting was opened and called to order by Mr. Diehl who welcomed members of the public who were in attendance and asked if they wished to speak. Ms. Patricia Berg shared an Executive Summary from Black Box Voting, Inc. concerning security issues relative to an Optical Scan voting system. Ms. Virginia Harris had a packet of information for the Board Members. Mr. Kenneth Parks was in attendance but did not speak before the Board. The public forum was then closed.

Mr. Miller made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 19 meeting, which was seconded by Ms. Yeckel. A roll call was taken and the votes were as follows: Mr. Miller, aye; Ms. Yeckel, aye; Mr. Zimbalist, aye; Mr. Diehl, aye.

Mr. Diehl asked for the Directors Report. Ms. LaRosa reviewed the August 2 election. There were two polling place problems, both opening late due to a lack of communication. The supervisor of the Florissant Library was on vacation and his replacement was not made aware of the election. There was a change in administration at the Wellston Early Childhood Center; however, we have a new polling place that will be used in place of this location. It's just across the street, is handicapped accessible and has much better parking.

Looking forward to the November 8 election, we anticipate approximately 36,673 voters. The 94th State Representative race will be the deciding factor in anticipating turnout.

There is a mail election for the Robinwood West Community Improvement District for November 15, to elect three directors. We will be mailing the ballots on November 1 and submitting four names from our office to serve as the verification board for the election.

The Missouri Association of County Clerks and Election Authorities, hosted by Laclede County, will have their conference at Westport on September 21-23. Since it is local it was suggested that we send staff for training.

Locks have been ordered for the "cave" area of the warehouse. After large elections all the materials from the polling places will be kept secured in that area.

The judge/clerks have adopted the configuration of townships formerly referred to as Option 3.

We asked for a ruling from the Secretary of State's Office on registering RV'ers to vote. They advised us to consult our attorney.

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Mr. Bauer and Mr. Regan presented information on the statewide voter registration system. Mr. Regan said the Secretary of State's Office is investigating the network and hardware needs in our area. We need to know bandwidth requirements. Our current program was written long ago in COBOL. The new system is ORACLE based. There was discussion about whether we need an outside consultant. Mr. Diehl suggested the County contact the EAC and/or NIST.

Ms. Taylor said that years ago we had budgeted for a fiber optic line, but the County didn't see the need for it and had us go with a parallel line.

We have cost and capability questions about mass printing jobs, whether we would be able to handle them in house, send to an outside printer or use REJIS as we have been.

REJIS' non-election charges for last year totaled \$643,320.68. This will drop dramatically when we go on the new system. We will have a one time charge for the new software.

Mr. Miller suggested a timeline chart to keep everyone on track with what steps need to be taken at what time. Mr. Regan said he could have such a GATT chart by the end of the week.

Training is scheduled for November 14.

With regard to cost estimates for voting equipment, the Board would like a breakdown by HAVA funding and would like the license fees, which we pay now, to be backed out.

The question was raised about how to handle a large crowd of the general public at the mock election. They will be accommodated as time and parking permit. Those who have been invited will be taken care of first.

Hart's equipment will not be certified by the Secretary of State's Office by the end of the year. They will be asked to beg off the mock election and Populex will be asked to take their place. Populex representatives want to meet with us before the mock election.

The first item of new business was an ethics policy for election equipment procurement. Questions arose regarding State and County ethics the Board's relationship with the County. The proposed policy was not adopted as presented.

Mr. Diehl said our ethics policy should be forwarded to vendors when it is adopted.

The next item of new business was a change in personnel policy for outside political activity to bring it more in line with State policy. This would allow employees to be officers in township clubs. Mr. Miller made a motion to adopt the policy and Ms. Yeckel seconded. A roll call was taken and the votes were as follows: Mr. Miller, aye; Ms. Yeckel, aye; Mr. Zimbalist, aye; Mr. Diehl, aye.

Mr. Garrett was asked to tell the Board about himself. He said he has practiced law for about 26 years and previously was the Board's Counsel from 1986 to 1993. He worked for the Missouri Attorney General (John Ashcroft at the time) beginning in 1978 when he was still a student for 3 years. Mr. Diehl made a motion to hire Mr. Garrett as Board Counsel, Mr. Zimbalist seconded and upon roll call the votes were as follows: Mr. Miller, aye; Ms. Yeckel, aye; Mr. Zimbalist, aye; Mr. Diehl, aye.

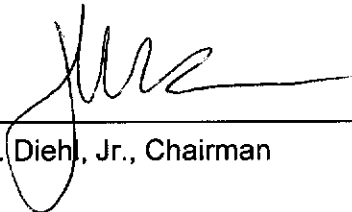
The Board thanked Mr. O'Keefe for the wonderful job he did as Board Counsel for the last 12 years or so.

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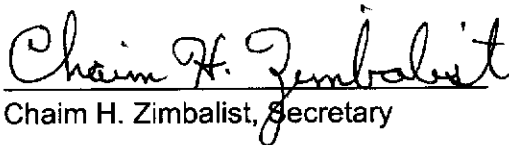
There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Diehl moved that the meeting be adjourned at the end of the closed session. Ms. Yeckel seconded, a roll call was taken and the votes were as follows: Mr. Miller, aye; Ms. Yeckel, aye; Mr. Zimbalist, aye; Mr. Diehl, aye.

The Board will meet on Monday, August 29 at 3:00 p.m. to discuss the 2006 budget.

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting is set for 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 20, 2005.



John J. Diehl, Jr., Chairman



Chaim H. Zimbalist, Secretary